

**GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE BOARD RI**  
**YOUTH DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
**OCTOBER 28, 2015**

**MINUTES**

Committee Members Present: Robin Coia, Chair, Timothy Byrne, Nina Pande, Scott Jensen, Steve Kitchin

Committee Members Absent: Bahjat Shariff, Monica Dzialo

Other Board Members Present:

GWB Staff Present: Rick Brooks, Dan Brown, Sherri Carello, Kristen McKenna

DLT Staff Present: Nancy Olson, Carlos Ribeiro, Adrianna Dextrateur, Michael Martins

Others Present: Malcolm Baxter, Anne Walsh,

Location: RI Department of Labor & Training, Conference room 73-2

**Chair's Call to Order**

Chair Coia welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.

**Minutes of the Youth Development Committee**

Chair Coia asked for a review of the meeting minutes of the 6-11-15 Governor's Workforce Board Youth Development Committee (YDC). She asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

**VOTE:** Nina Pande, motion to approve, seconded by Tim Byrne.  
All were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

**FY-16 Youth Summer Employment Programs Outcomes:**

Chair Coia asked Anne Walsh and Carlos Ribeiro to provide updates. Anne Walsh referred to the handout "Workforce Solutions Summer Report" Anne noted the total (JDF) Summer Contract awarded amount this year was \$424,766.00 to serve 10 Summer Providers. The range was from \$7,025.00 up \$87,972.00. Anne noted that P/C awarded the following certificates:

- 278 work readiness completion
- 274 work experience completion
- 260 for Health, Safety Rights on the Job Certificate
- 167 Additional certificates in: *MIT APP Program, National Retail Federation, OSHA 10, RI Early Learning Development Credential and Solid Works.*

**Also:**

- 36 of the 278 participants entered employment after the summer program ended.
- There were employer partners.

Nina stated that the Institute for Labor Studies & Research was a great and helpful program.

Carlos noted GRI served 781 youth out of 2,271 who applied.  
Most of the youth participants were between the ages of 14 -15 and returned to school.

Carlos explained the design of the summer program: the first week (out of six) is spent in the classroom for work readiness. Youth complete the Health and Safety Training as part of work readiness and are then placed in paid work experiences for at least three days per week. Participants return to the classroom at the vendor site for 1-2 days for each of the remaining weeks (usually Mondays and Fridays) for additional activities to combine working and learning, attend field trips and hear guest speakers from industry.

For Summer 2015, GRI awarded contracts in the amount of \$949,136 and awarded certificates as follows:

- 773 work readiness completion
- 779 work experience completion
- 779 for Health, Safety Rights on the Job Certificate
- 214 attained additional credentials

**Also:**

- 42 of the 781 participants entered employment after the summer program ended.
- There were 261 employer partners.

**Real Jobs RI Program and Youth initiatives**

Rick Brooks noted that youth services are provided under the leadership of the Governor and the Real Jobs program. Rick Brooks, Sherri Carello, Carlos Ribiero and Adrianna Dextradeur are working on connecting sector partnerships with the youth centers to connect directly with businesses. Rick noted that a number of businesses had concerns about having youth ready for Real Jobs RI contractual partners. Concerns were expressed on reaching those targets.

How do we connect the youth program to the partnerships? Scott noted that the youth system will need to collaborate with Real Jobs RI and that the partnerships will be discussing connecting with youth. The group discussed collaboration with the Career Technical Centers after school to expand the range of services to youth and utilize these tremendous resources, beginning with out of school disconnected youth. Tim Bryne noted that Massachusetts has been successful with similar efforts.

**New Youth Initiatives:**

Rick discussed that the GWB wanted to make a new investment in youth that takes the youth initiatives to a new level and looked to the committee to make a recommendation for a way to move forward.

The group discussed several ideas and agreed that committee members and staff would meet again in a few weeks to brainstorm about possibilities for the initiative. *(The group met on November 20 and developed into a work group for after-school programs at the CTEs).*

**New Business:**

Anne mentioned that the national Americorps/VISTA program was accepting proposals for state projects for next year. She will meet with them and determine if it's appropriate for the youth workforce system to apply.

**Adjournment**

With no further business, Chair Coia asked for a motion to adjourn.

**VOTE:** Steve Kitchin moved to approve, seconded by Nina Pande.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 3, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Brown